

The Groundplane

SBARA—The South Bay Amateur Radio Association KU6S

March, 2015
Volume 15, Issue 3



ARRL Member
Club Since 1974



SBARA Presidents Message March 2015

As time seems to continue to speed up as we grow older, whoa...it's already March! Be sure to not over-indulge in green beer on the 17th! ;-)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Radio in the Park - Saturday, April 25th!!! Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, right? The Foothills Amateur Radio Society (FARS) holds Radio in the Park over several Sundays during the summer. I thought it would be cool to do something similar...and the SBARA board agreed. So the plan is to do a mini Field Day with only a few stations setup at Lake Elizabeth. The specific area at the lake is to be determined. Expect, at a minimum, stations for HF, VHF/UHF, and Satellite (thanks to Umesh GHODKE, K6VUG). I'd also like to have a hidden transmitter to demonstrate some simple transmitter hunting. I think this will be fun for the kids! Please come out and join us! I think it will be a lot of fun!

HAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Primavera Bike Ride - Sunday, April 26th! Tony Flusche (AB6BR) is still looking for volunteers for this Fremont Freewheelers (FFBC) sponsored bike ride. He usually has many more than have signed up this year. This bike ride has several routes that range from a 25 mile fun ride to a 100 mile century. HAM operators are critical to provide communications for the event. Some operators are posted at rest stops and others are mobile (paired with a SAG (Support and Gear) driver. You can sign up for a morning or afternoon shift...or both. Plan to use your own gear! It's a great opportunity to exercise your ham radio skills...AND...it's a lot of fun! Please look for more information and sign up online at: <https://ffbcprimavera.wordpress.com/volunteers/> Contact Tony Flusche for questions or additional information at: ab6br@arrl.net

STUDYING FOR MY UPGRADE - You may be surprised to learn that yours truly has FINALLY started to seriously study for the Extra exam. The process of gearing up for this has been quite interesting. There are so many resources available to the ham radio student to help study for upgrading their license. You have ARRL books and CDs, Gordon West books and CDs, and various online tests and study sites. As you may know, everyone learns a bit differently, so a recommendation from a friend of what worked for them doesn't guarantee that it will work for you! Thanks to Scott Mercer (K1GSEJ), one of our ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinators, I checked out Ham Test Online (<https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/>). The enticement was that they offer a free course for active Volunteer Examiners specifically for upgrading to Extra class. All that they require is that you have participated in at least three VE sessions within the past twelve months. I really like their website and process. *[NOTE: The secret word for a free raffle ticket at the next meeting is: Extra (is that spelled right?). Write this word on a piece of paper and hand it in for one, free raffle ticket.]* They have a hybrid approach where they offer study materials as well as sample tests. You can click a link to get more information on the topic as you study and answer example questions. Also...the software will repeat the specific questions that you have the most problems with, so it adapts to you as you go. Very cool! They offer a free trial. Check it out! Oh...and once you sign up, the site sends you reminder emails if you haven't connected in a while. Yeah...like I need them to nag me in addition to you all teasing me! <grin> It's all good. I think I am finally in a regular groove. We shall see how this goes. So far so good.

73!

Steve KG6HJU



Amateur Radio Support for 3 Running Events – 2015

I'm looking for radio operators to support three running events. Do you have a friend that likes to get out in the fresh air, licensed or not? This friend could help you with keeping track of the runner bib numbers. As always, I am looking for additional amateur radio operators to work these events. Feel free to spread the word about these events in the groups you belong to.

Ohlone 50k Wilderness Run. This event will be held on **Sunday, May 17**. The event starts at 0800 south of Ohlone College and ends at Lake Del Valle, south of Livermore. The radio part usually closes at 1630. We use the W6SRR repeater. An HT with an enhanced antenna and at least one extra battery is required for some locations. Some locations require mobile power and/or a gain antenna. The event website is www.ohlone50k.com.

Lake Chabot Trail Challenge Half Marathon & 5k.

This event will be held on **Sunday, June 7**. The event starts at 0800 and is closed up by 1200. Communication is over a simplex frequency. An HT with an enhanced antenna and extra battery is required. The event website is <http://www.cvtrackclub.com/trailchallenge.html>.

Skyline 50k. This event will be held on **Sunday, August 8**. The event starts at 0800 and officially closes at 1800. The radio part is usually finished by 1630. Communication is over a simplex channel. An HT with an enhanced antenna and extra battery is required for most locations. Some of the locations require mobile power and a gain antenna. The event website is <http://skyline50k.com>.

Contact me at n6ojj@arrl.net for more information about each event and more specific radio requirements.

David McBrayer, N6OJJ

Mark your calendar for the 2015 Electronics Flea Market!

This is a reminder that the Electronics Flea Market has been scheduled for 2015 at De Anza College. Our first market is scheduled for March 14th from 5am until Noon.

The season is scheduled for the second Saturday of each month March through September, 5AM until Noon. Each Market is sponsored by a different amateur radio organization and is operated as a fund-raiser for that organization.

Note that the Electronics Flea Market is intended for electronics goods and other things related to amateur radio. This should be the focus of vendors who attend the market.

More information and directions may be found at the Electronics Flea Market web site at <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/> These flea markets are organized by ASVARO (Association of Silicon Valley Radio Organizations <http://www.asvaro.org/>) as a fund raising activity for local amateur radio organizations.

Use the link at the bottom of this memo to subscribe or unsubscribe for this email list. This email list is exclusively for announcements and information about the Electronics Flea Market and information we deem to be of general interest to this on this list.

Electronics Flea Market Announcements mailing list

<http://mailman.svpal.org/mailman/listinfo/efm>

Registration is OPEN!
May 1, 2 & 3, 2015
ARRL Nevada State Convention at
Boomtown Casino Hotel!
Reno, Nevada



Convention Highlights

- *General Sessions \$25.00 Fri/Sat/Sunday Before April 30th. \$30.00 at the Door.*
- *As low as \$29.99 (plus tax) Special Hotel Rate at the Boomtown Casino Resort (book soon as rate and rooms are limited!)*
- *KOA RV Park starting at 27.99 with a store, pool and great views of the Sierra Nevada*
- *Friday Night BBQ at the Orchards with views of the Sierra Nevada*
- *West coast CW Enthusiasts' Confab Sessions and Dinner*
- *Get Your License in a Day (\$35.00) - Saturday*
- *Exhibitors & Ham Swap - Saturday*
- *Saturday Night Banquet (\$33.00) and Entertainment*
- *VE Examinations*
- *Special Events Station*
- *Cabela's located across the parking lot for those sports enthusiasts and much more.*

Register Today!

Please visit <http://nvcon.org> for the latest information about the convention.

See you in Reno, Nevada at Boomtown Casino Hotel

73

Nevada State Convention - Planning Committee

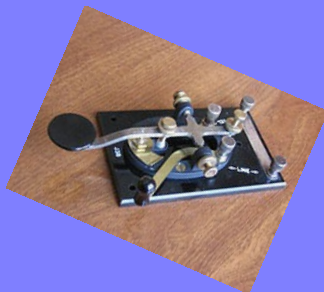
SBARA

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association, is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an California not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes social time, a business portion and a program of interest.

All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome.

We hope to see you there!



Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

*Are you looking for your favorite Repeater?
Here is information you can use!*

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5	600Khz, PL 123.0 K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
WA6PWW—223.900— 500Khz, PL 107.2	ARES Net Meeting— Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5
WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz, PL107.2	
K6AIR—146.940—	

Time to dust off those Keys....

The Slow CW net is taking place
Every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm on 144.230MHz.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:
"SF Bay CW Enthusiasts" <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

—... —"

Bernhard AE6YN

SBARA Meeting Location Second Friday of the Month

Our meeting location is at:
Hurricane Electric.
The address in Fremont is:
760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.
Bring your HF transceiver, antenna or HT !
Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600
Mingle with your fellow SBARA members!

SBARA - Groundplane

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's news-letter. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio at Comcast dot net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.



Upcoming SBARA Events

SBARA Action Packed Meeting is March 13th.! Fantastic Raffle Prizes—So Come to the Meeting for the Fellowship!

Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC— March 14th @ 9:00am at Hurricane Electric — 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont. **Contact: Greg** at wy6pradio@gmail.com \$15 fee. Walk-ins allowed.

Additional information is described at the SBARA's Website, www.sbara.org

Select License Exams from the Navigation URL.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

P.O. Box 8401

Fremont, Ca.

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